



This is an official
DHEC Health Update

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Infection Prevention Guide for Outpatient Settings

This SC DHEC Health Update is to provide health care providers with:

1. A summary of the recently released CDC document regarding infection control in outpatient settings: "Guide to Infection Prevention in Outpatient Settings: Minimum Expectations for Safe Care" www.cdc.gov/HAI/settings/outpatient/outpatient-care-guidelines.html
2. Links to source documents and full guidelines

Background:

Over the past several decades, we have witnessed a significant shift in healthcare delivery from the acute, inpatient hospital setting to a variety of ambulatory and community-based settings. Numerous outbreaks have been described across the country which occurred in these types of settings. In many instances, these outbreaks and adverse events were associated with breakdowns in basic infection prevention procedures. Compared to inpatient facilities, ambulatory care settings have traditionally lacked the infrastructure and resources to support infection prevention and surveillance activities. This document serves as a reminder and summary of these important infection prevention practices.

Key Points:

The following are fundamental elements needed to prevent transmission of infectious agents in ambulatory care settings. This is not a comprehensive list. Please see the resource documents for more information.

(1) Dedicate Resources to Infection Prevention:

- Ensure availability of sufficient and appropriate equipment and supplies necessary for the consistent observation of Standard Precautions.
- Develop and maintain infection prevention programs.
- Assure that at least one individual with infection prevention training is employed by or readily available to the facility.

- Develop written infection prevention policies relevant to the types of services provided by your facility.

(2) *Educate and Train Healthcare Personnel:*

- Provide job or task-specific infection prevention education and training to all HCP.
- Training should be provided upon orientation and repeated regularly.

(3) *Monitor and Report Healthcare-Associated Infections:*

- Review the SC 2011 List of Reportable Conditions.
- Perform regular audits and competency evaluations of HCP adherence to infection prevention practices.

(4) *Adhere to Standard Precautions:*

- Ensure use of proper hand hygiene at all times.
- Follow established guidelines for the use of Personal Protective Equipment.
- Following recommendations for safe injection practices.
- Establish policies and procedures for routine cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces.
- All reusable medical equipment must be cleaned and maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions to prevent patient-to-patient transmission of infectious agents.
- Respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette is an element of Standard Precautions that highlights the need for prompt implementation of infection prevention measures at the first point of encounter.

Where to Find More Information:

2008 Guidelines for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities

www.cdc.gov/hicpac/Disinfection_Sterilization/1_sumIntroMethTerms.html

Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Healthcare Facilities

www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5210a1.htm

Guidelines for Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings

www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5116.pdf

2007 Guidelines for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings

www.cdc.gov/hicpac/2007IP/2007ip_ExecSummary.html

Guidelines for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infection, 1999

www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/guidelines/SSI.pdf

Guidelines for the Prevention of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections, 2011
www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/guidelines/bsi-guidelines-2011.pdf

Management of Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms in Healthcare Settings, 2006
www.cdc.gov/hicpac/mdro/mdro_toc.html

Influenza Vaccination of Health-Care Personnel, 2006
www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5502a1.htm

Guidelines for Infection Control in Healthcare Personnel, 1998
www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/InfectControl98.pdf

Recommendations for Preventing Transmission of Infections Among Chronic Hemodialysis Patients
www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5005a1.htm

Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Healthcare Settings, 2003
www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5217a1.htm

DHEC contact information for reportable diseases and reporting requirements

Reporting of outbreaks is consistent with South Carolina Law requiring the reporting of diseases and conditions to your state or local public health department. (State Law # 44-29-10 and Regulation # 61-20) as per the DHEC 2011 List of Reportable Conditions available at:
<http://www.scdhec.gov/administration/library/CR-009025.pdf>

Federal HIPAA legislation allows disclosure of protected health information, without consent of the individual, to public health authorities to collect and receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease. (HIPAA 45 CFR §164.512).

Regional Public Health Offices – 2011

Mail or call reports to the Epidemiology Office in each Public Health Region.

Region 1

Anderson, Oconee

220 McGee Road
Anderson, SC 29625
Phone: (864) 260-4358
Fax: (864) 260-5623
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-298-4442

Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Saluda

1736 S. Main Street
Greenwood, SC 29646
Phone: 1-888-218-5475
Fax: (864) 942-3690
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-420-1915

Region 2

Greenville, Pickens

PO Box 2507
200 University Ridge
Greenville, SC 29602-2507
Phone: (864) 282-4139
Fax: (864) 282-4373
Nights / Weekends: (864) 809-3825

Cherokee, Spartanburg, Union

PO Box 4217
151 E. Wood Street
Spartanburg, SC 29305-4217
Phone: (864) 596-2227, x- 210
Fax: (864) 596-3443
Nights / Weekends: (864) 809-3825

Region 3

Chester, Lancaster, York

PO Box 817
1833 Pageland Highway
Lancaster, SC 29720
Phone: (803) 286-9948
Fax: (803) 286-5418
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-867-3886

Region 3 (continued)

Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland

2000 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC 29204
Phone: (803) 576-2749
Fax: (803) 576-2993
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-554-9915

Region 4

Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter

PO Box 1628
105 North Magnolia Street
Sumter, SC 29150
Phone: (803) 773-5511
Fax: (803) 775-9941
Nights/Weekends: (803) 458-1847

Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro, Marion

145 E. Cheves Street
Florence, SC 29506
Phone: (843) 661-4830
Fax: (843) 661-4859
Nights / Weekends: (843) 601-7051

Region 5

Bamberg, Calhoun, Orangeburg

PO Box 1126
1550 Carolina Avenue
Orangeburg, SC 29116
Phone: (803) 533-7199
Fax: (803) 533-7134
Nights / Weekends: (803) 516-5166

Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell

1680 Richland Avenue, W. Suite 40
Aiken, SC 29801
Phone: (803) 642-1618
Fax: (803) 643-8386
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-614-1519

Region 6

Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg

1931 Industrial Park Road
Conway, SC 29526-5482
Phone: (843) 915-8804
Fax: (843) 365-0085
Nights / Weekends: (843) 381-6710

Region 7

Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester

4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600
N. Charleston, SC 29405
Phone: (843) 953-0047
Fax: (843) 953-0051
Nights / Weekends: (843) 219-8470

Region 8

Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper

219 S. Lemacks Street
Walterboro, SC 29488
Phone: (843) 525-5910
Fax: (843) 549-6845
Nights / Weekends: 1-843-441-1091

DHEC Bureau of Disease Control

Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology

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www.scdhec.gov

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert:	Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Health Advisory:	Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
Health Update:	Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require